GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1522
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2003
ADULTERATION IN PETROLEUM PRODUCTS
MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority has been directed by the Supreme Court of India to conduct an independent inquiry into the sensational cases of adulteration in the petroleum products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the other steps being taken by the Government to check this adulteration?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The Supreme Court of India vide its order dated 22.11.2001 directed the Environment Pollution Control Authority (EPCA) to carry out random inspection at the petrol pumps, oil depots and tank lorries in Delhi and submit a report with regard to the quality of petrol and diesel available there.

(c) Besides the setting up of Anti Adulteration Cell, steps such as blue dyeing of Kerosene meant for Public Distribution System (PDS), regular/ surprise inspection of the retail outlets, introduction of tamper proof locking system for tanker-trucks, special vigilance drives, etc., are taken by the Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs). The State Government also initiate action against any dealer indulging in adulteration of petroleum products and violation of any Control Order issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.